

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02907 031324Z  
ACTION FBO-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 A-01 /019 W  
-----032243Z 002140 /44  
R 031305Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4741

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 2907

E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, ASEC  
SUBJECT: CHANCERY PROPERTY ELECTRICAL POWER, PRCP, NO. 01284

REF: STATE 32936, STATE 46113, MOSCOW 2034, MOSCOW 1505

1. EMBASSY STAFF HAS UNDERTAKEN PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF PROJECTED SWITCHOVER FROM 127/220 VAC TO 220/380 VAC POWER SERVICE. SUGGESTIONS ADVANCED BY STATE 32936 ARE ALL LOGICAL, HOWEVER, POSSIBLE PROBLEMS INCLUDE: BRITTLE INSULATION ON SOME FEEDER AND BRANCH CIRCUITS WHICH MAY NOT BE RATED 600 VOLTS; BRANCH DISTRIBUTION PANELS ARE DATED 1952 AND ARE OF DUBIOUS QUALITY; FEEDERS ARE GENERALLY PRE-WW II AND ARE ALSO QUESTIONABLE; ALL WIRING IS OF RUBBER AND COTTON CORD INSULATION; ALL BRANCH CIRCUITS ARE TWO WIRE W/O GROUND.

2. UPDK HAS OFFERED TO CHECK ALL WIRING ON PANEL BOXES AND FEEDERS IN THE CENTRAL WING UP TO THE 7TH FLOOR FOR R10,000. EMBASSY FEELS THIS SUM IS EXORBITANT AND HAS NOT ACCEPTED OFFER. (HOWEVER, WE MUST STRESS THAT EXISTING WIRING SHOULD NOT BE ASSUMED TO BE CAPABLE OF SAFELY HANDLING NEW VOLTAGE. WE ARE UNABLE TO INSPECT ALL WIRING IN A TIMELY FASHION AND THEREFORE REQUEST TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN CARRYING OUT THIS INSPECTION.

3. HARDWARE PROCUREMENT PROMISES TO BE A MAJOR FACTOR

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IN PREPARATION FOR THE CHANGE TO 220/380V. FUSES, CIRCUIT BREAKERS, BALLAST, TRANSFORMERS AND OTHER ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT WILL PROBABLY NOT BE AVAILABLE LOCALLY. TIMELY PROCUREMENT IS ESSENTIAL TO INSURE ADEQUATE STOCKS. NO DOUBT UPDK WOULD BE PREPARED TO INVENTORY CURRENT EQUIPMENT AND COMPILE A LIST OF NECESSARY PARTS, TRANSFORMER, AND ASSOCIATED HARDWARE, TO ACCOMMODATE COMMUNICATIONS

POWER REQUIREMENT.

5. IN THE PAST, ASSIGNED SEABEES HAVE BEEN UTILIZED TO CARRY OUT WIRING. THE FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT STATES THAT THIS PRACTICE IS LESS THAN SATISFACTORY AS EVEN RECENTLY INSTALLED WIRING DOES NOT CONFORM TO US CODES. THEREFORE, THE EMBASSY STRONGLY URGES THAT A TEAM OF CLEARED SPECIALISTS INCLUDING A QUALIFIED SUPERVISOR BE PUT TOGETHER TO INSPECT AND UNDERTAKE ANY NECESSARY SERVICING IN THE CLASSIFIED AREAS OF THE CHANCERY.

6. POST WELCOMES VISIT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEER. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES WE REQUEST THAT HE BE PREPARED TO INSPECT WIRING IN ALL SECTIONS OF CHANCERY, ASSIST IN DRAWING UP HARDWARE PROCUREMENT LIST AND DEVELOP PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR WORK TO BE PERFORMED BY AMERICAN TECHNICIANS. TOON

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## Message Attributes

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